

Update

USDA Forest Service
Coronado National Forest
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www.fs.fed.us/r3/coronado



For Immediate Release

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NORTH TAYLOR FIRE

SAFFORD, AZ (May 21, 2006) 9:00 a.m. – The North Taylor wildfire near West Peak in the Pinaleno Mountains has burned an estimated 100 acres in Ponderosa pine and thick brush understory. It is believed to be a lightning ignited fire from thunder storm activity earlier in the week.

Today, fire crews will continue to construct handline to contain the fire. Four helicopters are assigned to assist with suppression efforts and air tankers are available. No structures are threatened at this time..

Riggs Lake Campground remains open today; however Riggs Lake is closed to use by visitors because helicopters are dipping water to support fire suppression activities. Those planning to visit Riggs Lake Campground should be aware of heavy fire traffic on Swift Trail (Highway 366).

The fire is burning in steep, rocky, inaccessible terrain at about 7000 feet elevation making suppression efforts challenging. .

Personnel on the North Taylor fire include three Type I hand crews from the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs and 2 Type II hand crews, from the Arizona State Department of Corrections in Douglas and from Northwest Fire Department in Tucson. The fire is being managed by the Eastern Arizona Incident Management Team as of 6:00 a.m. today.

For more information on regional fire restrictions, please call the toll free Fire Restriction Hot Line 1-877-864-6985, or check this website: <http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc>.

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